GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6653
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2000
TECHNIQUE FOR LOWER BACK DISC PLAN
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Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a new technique called Laser Assisted Disc Decompression for treatment of lower back, disc pain replacing strong pain killers, physiotherapy and surgery etc. has been introduced in some Government hospitals in the country;

(b) if so, the names of such Hospitals, State/Union Territory-wise;

(c) whether the Government propose to extend this facility in more Government Hospitals in the country;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE(INDEPENDENT CHARGE)

(SHRI N.T. SHANMUGAM)

(a) The technique called Laser Assisted Disc Decompression (LADD) has not been introduced in Central Government Hospitals, All India Institute of Medical Sciences, Hospitals of NDMC, MCD and Government of NCT of Delhi.

(b)to(e): The Laser Assisted Disc Decompression (LADD) is not an alternative to conservative treatment.LADD system is considered only in cases of failed conservative treatment and is still considered experimental for disc decompression as an altervative to other surgical or percutaneous procedures. Enough literature on the number of cases treated by the said technique is still not available in the Western as well as Indian population. Few studies in last 5 years reported success rates of 43-80% in a follow up period of upto 2 years. There is a need to collect adequate clinical data from Indian patients outlining its efficacy as compared to other similar techniques before the system is considered for adoption.